

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given to the present application. Claims 5, 6, and 9-19 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner considers the subject matter of claims 12-17, and 19 as being allowable and the subject matter of claims 5 and 9-11 as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Although not conceding appropriateness of the Examiner's rejections, claims 1-4, 7 and 8 have been cancelled and the dependency of claims 6, and 9-11 have been changed to depend from claim 12. Accordingly, all of these claims are now in condition for allowance.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner objected to claim 18 since it is apparent that it should depend from claim 12. By way of the present amendment, Applicants have corrected the dependency of this claim to also depend from claim 12. Accordingly, Claims 18 and 19 are likewise allowable.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Murray, et al. (U.S. Patent 4,591,466). Claims 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by Peterson (U.S. Patent 6,814,524). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

By way of the present amendment, claims 1-4, 7 and 8 have all been cancelled rendering this part of the rejection moot. Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 12. Accordingly, both of these rejections are believed to be overcome.

Application No. 10/567,680
Amendment dated June 8, 2007
Reply to Office Action of February 9, 2007

Docket No.: 5213-0103PUS1

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Murray. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 8 has been cancelled rendering this rejection moot.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that all of the claims are now clearly in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.


Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Joe McKinney Muncy (Reg. No. 32,334) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By


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